

The London Gazette.

Published by Authority.

From Sunday December 25. to Thursday December 28. 1671.

Venice, December 11.

BY a Vessel arriv'd here from the *Levant*, we are told, that the Captain Bassa is at present with his Fleet in the *Archipelago*, having carefully avoyded all occasions of meeting with the French Squadron, which is still plying thereabouts; they farther tell us, that the Gallies of *Máltha*, with other of the Christian Gallies, notwithstanding their Fleet, continue to do much damage to the Turks in those parts. From *Candia* they write, that the Bassa of that place, finding what ill effects his too rigorous Government was like to have, in causing several people to quit the place, &c. had of late very much changed his Carriage, so that he began to be more agreeable to those Inhabitants.

We are now assured from all hands, that the disorders in *Asia* are wholly appeas'd; that the Faction at *Constantinople* is dispers'd, the Sultaness and her Son being both dead; that the Grand Vicer was at present there, settling things according to the Grand Signiors Order, who having compos'd these Domestick differences, it is thought, may now bend his thoughts for some Foreign War, for which, we are told, of great preparations are making in all his Dominions, and that his Forces begin to move again towards the Frontiers of *Polland* and *Hungary*, as is feared, with intentions to prosecute the designs, they have long had against those Countries.

Vienna, December 12. From the Port they not only write with much certainty, of the disorders in *Arabia* being appeas'd, and the Faction at *Constantinople* being dispers'd, but farther, that the Grand Signiors Forces are all ordered to march towards our Frontiers; and that he will have a very considerable Army in the Field against Spring, to be employ'd either against the Poles, for the protection of the *Ukraine*, or *Hungary*, for the assistance of the Rebels there; which reports, although they seem to make little impression here, as being without any ground, yet we are told, of an Army of 50000 Men, we shall have ready to put into the Field by Spring, if there should happen to be any occasion for them.

Dantzicke, Decemb. 12. The Polish Army having received all possible satisfaction in several matters concerning their Winter Quarters, the Chief Officers are come to *Warsaw*, with intentions to pass the Winter at the Court, but the King fearing, lest in their absence, some evil Spirits may foment new discontents among the Army, and so cause them to fall into disorder again, hath lately published an Edict, by which all Officers are commanded to repair to their respective Commands, and not to stir thence, without leave first obtained from him or their General.

From *Warsaw* some Letters speak, of a Turkish Chiaus lately arriv'd there with Letters, in which they say, the Port seems to threaten that Kingdom with a War, unless they retire their Forces out of

the *Ukraine*, which Country the Grand Signior pretends to have taken under his protection; but this is not altogether believed by some, who think these reports onely set on foot, for the disposing the several Provincial Assemblies (which are held at present for the framing Instructions for the Deputies they send to the Great Dyet appointed at *Warsaw* the 26 of the next Month) the more readily to concur for the supplying the Kings present necessities, and the enabling him to have a good Army in the Field against Spring, as well for the defence of the Kingdom, against all Foreign attempts; as the farther reducing the *Ukraine*.

Our Letters from *Riga* of the 28 past, tell us, that they had advice there from *Moscow*, that the Rebels continue still very powerful in the parts about *Astracan*, of which places, as well as several others, they still keep possession; that some of the lesser Towns upon the *Volga*, having upon promise of pardon, submitted themselves to the Czars Authority, had, contrary to what they expected according to their Capitulation, been very severely Treated by the Czars Officers, most of the Inhabitants having been cruelly killed, and others put to the most exquisite torments; that the report of this hard usage, coming to *Astracan*, and the other places thereabouts, in the possession of the Rebels, had so exasperated them, that they immediately went out in several parties; and had destroyed the Countrey, and whatever else they met with, to about forty Leagues of *Moscow*; they farther write, that they were since grown to that abominable insolence, as to demand, that the present Czar may be depos'd, the old Patriarch, who was some years since banish'd, restored; that they keep possession of such Towns and Places at present in their hands, with several other things, too extravagant to be related; so that after all we fear, the affairs of those Countries are not in so good a condition, as hath been of late reported.

Leghorne, Decemb. 14. Here are in Port the *Mary Rose* and *Success* Frigats, who may in three or four days be ready to Saylor with several Merchant men under their Convoy for *Spain* and *England*; The 12 instant departed hence the *Fohn* and *Thomas* for *Messina* and *Smirna*, together with the *African* Pink for *Tunis*.

By a Vessel arriv'd from *Palermo* in *Sicily*, we have this account, of what had lately happened there; That the Inhabitants, who began now more and more to feel the want of Corn, which that Kingdom hath for several Months been oppress'd with, having first on all occasions proclaimed their discontents and grievances, and then loudly complain'd against the Government, because they had not taken care by a timely provision, to prevent this scarcity of Grain, at length, finding no redress, but that the mischief still grew upon them, fell into great disorder, that they went in Tumults to the Palace, to demand of their Vice-Roy the Prince *de Ligne*, what was impossible for him on that sudden to supply, a Provision of Corn, in which their wilde demands, not being presently satisfied, they proceeded to threatenings, and other rude carri-

age, towards the Vice-Roy, who thereupon privately left the place, in order to the putting himself into a better condition, for the quieting these disorders, which upon the arrival of a Squadron of Spanish Gallies there, he accordingly did, so that at the coming away of this Vessel; all things were settled in an entire quietness again.

Hamburg, Decemb. 22. Yesterday arrived here the Duke and Dutchess of Meckelenburgh; who may, as is thought, pass some of the Winter here. Monsieur Pompane, late Ambassador from his most Christian Majesty at the Court of Sweden, is at present here on his return home; the ways hereabouts being at present very bad and difficult to pass, he may be forced to stay some days here; the general report in the mean time being, that he is to pass through Holland, to receive the Proposals of those States, in matter of Commerce, &c.

By several Passengers lately arrived out of the Territories of the Duke of Lunenburgh, we have advice, that those Dukes Forces had all orders to prepare for a march, on what design was not known, though some people seem to apprehend, it may be against *Hildesheim*.

Our Letters from *Moskow* speak so variously of the present condition of affairs about *Astracan*, that we are wholly in the dark, as to the truth of any thing; from *Riga* they tell us, as if the Rebels had lately been abroad in several parties, who meeting with no considerable resistance, had done much mischief to the Neighbouring Countries.

Cologne, Decemb. 25. The respective Deputies here, continue their Conferences with the same earnestness as formerly, and with the same success; things remaining thus in one posture, we have nothing to advise from hence, save that we daily hear of more Forces drawing down towards these parts.

Paris, Dec. 30. On Monday next, it is said, the King begins his journey for *Chalons*; where there will be, besides other Forces, a Rendezvous of about 12000 men, which have been raised in several parts abroad this Summer; his Majesty intending to be back again at *St. Germain*, in fourteen days at farthest. We are told, that the Heer *Grothus*, Ambassador of the States General of the *United Provinces*, hath prevailed so far, as to obtain at length; a promise that he shall have a private Audience of the King yet before his departure.

It is said that the Marquis *Villars*, Ambassador from his Majesty at the Court at *Madrid*; hath orders to press the Queen Regent, to give a final Declaration in writing, how she will carry her self in the present conjuncture of Affairs; that so his Majesty may know how to take his measures accordingly. The Cardinal *de Retz* is suddenly expected at this Court.

Brussels, January 1. His Excellency hath lately augmented the Soldiers pay, as well Horse as Foot, from eight to nine Months in a year, and has said, his Excellency will yet add one Month more to them, so that they shall for the future have ten Months pay in the year!

Monsieur *de Louvois*, lately arrived from *Paris*, to visit by his most Christian Majesties order, the French places and Fortifications in these Countries, was on Sunday last at *Aeths*, where he intended to stay some days, to take a review of the Forces in that Garrison; and then, as was there said, to pass to *Lorraine*, and so to meet the King at the General Rendezvous at *Chalons*, about the 15 of the next Month.

The Baron *de Risincourt*, having finally concluded an agreement with his Excellency for two Regi-

ments, one of Horse and the other of Foot, to come into the service of these Provinces, under the Command of the Prince *de Vaudemont*; he hath sent an Express to the Duke of *Boyrund*, at present at *Polozn*, with an account of what hath passed, so that we suddenly expect here that Prince, with the said Troops under his Command. His Excellency hath again issued a very severe Order, requiring all Governors, and other Military Officers, to repair forthwith to their respective Commands.

Whitohal, Dec. 27. His Majesty hath been graciously pleased, to issue his Proclamation of the 22 instant, to this Effect; That his Majesty having lately sent Sr. Charles Wheeler, his Lieutenant General &c. of *St. Christophers*, and the other Leeward Islands; with such Directions and Instructions, as might best tend to the general Good and Welfare of all his Subjects there; and especially for the encouragement of the English to returne and resettle at *St. Christophers*; his Majesty hath nevertheless been informed, that the said Sr. Charles Wheeler, had on or about the 24 of August last past, caused a Proclamation to be published at *St. Christophers*; thereby endeavoring to oblige the former Inhabitants and Proprietors, to appear before a certain Court of Claymes, by him there erected; and to return with a Stock, sufficient to the quantity of Land they claim, on peril of losing such part of their Estates, they shall not be able to Stock, which shall be given to them who are better able; And moreover to be Contributory to all Levies, to be made for satisfaction of the French Demands, upon any Article of the Peace at *Breda*; or for satisfaction of any other disbursements, concerning Fortifications or any other Publick Expenses; with a farther menacing intimation, to all such as shall be found to have acted, in the late rendition of the Island to the French; or have been guilty of any Cowardise or Folly in that Warr, that they are not to expect the like advantages with others: And with a Declaration, that a Quitrent should be reserved on every mans Estate; with allowance of no longer time than a Month, to such Persons as were in any of the Leeward Islands, and three Months to others for putting in their Claims; Which Proclamation of the said Sr. Charles Wheeler, being altogether contrary to his Majesties Royal Intentions and Instructions given him; His Majesty, to prevent the ill Consequence it may have, Doth declare the said Proclamation, and every thing therein contained, to be Null and Void to all Intents and Purposes: His Majesty farther Declaring, for the encouragement of the late Planters and Proprietors at *St. Christophers*, That all and every the late Planters, shall be admitted to enjoy their respective Plantations, carrying with them such stock onely, as they are able to provide, with these Restrictions onely, that they who sold their Plantations to the French, shall be obliged, to reimburse the Purchaser, the Money they received for the same, within one year, to be accounted from the 15 of July 1671; and that they who have not sold their Estates to the French, shall be obliged to return before the 25 of December 1672: His Majesty farther declaring, that no Tax, Imposition, &c. shall be imposed upon any Lands or Tenements there, unless it be by vertue of some publick Law made by the Assembly of the said Island; His Majesty farther declaring, all and every the Inhabitants, Proprietors, &c. of that Island, freed and indemnified of all Crimes, Offences, &c. by them committed, during the late War in the said Island.